
By: **Senators Jacobs and Pipkin**
Introduced and read first time: January 23, 2006
Assigned to: Budget and Taxation

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments
Senate action: Adopted
Read second time: April 3, 2006

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Property Tax ~~Exemption~~ Credit - Fire Companies - Cecil County**

3 FOR the purpose of ~~exempting from the State and local property tax~~ authorizing the
4 governing body of Cecil County or of a municipal corporation in Cecil County to
5 grant, by law, a credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax
6 imposed on certain property owned by certain fire companies in Cecil County
7 under certain circumstances; making a technical correction; providing for the
8 application of this Act; and generally relating to a property tax ~~exemption~~ credit
9 for certain property owned by certain fire companies.

10 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
11 Article - Tax - Property
12 Section ~~7-209~~ 9-309(b)
13 Annotated Code of Maryland
14 (2001 Replacement Volume and 2005 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article - Tax - Property**

18 ~~7-209.~~

19 ~~Property is not subject to property tax if the property:~~

20 (1) ~~is owned by an incorporated, nonprofit fire company or rescue squad;~~
21 ~~and~~

1 (2) is necessary for and actually used exclusively for the purposes of the
2 fire company or rescue squad, including property that:

3 (i) is used for:

- 4 1. training; or
- 5 2. fund raising at carnivals or bazaars;

6 (ii) is held in an advanced land acquisition program of the fire
7 company or rescue squad;

8 (iii) is leased for not more than 60 days during any 12-month period
9 OR, IN CECIL COUNTY, IS LEASED FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME UNDER A CONTRACTUAL
10 AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FIRE COMPANY'S FIRE HALL, if:

11 1. the property is used for a purpose that is related to the
12 purposes of the fire company or rescue squad; and

13 2. the rent that is received from the property is used
14 exclusively for the purposes of the fire company or rescue squad;

15 (iv) is leased to any nonprofit organization, if:

16 1. the property is used for a purpose that is related to the
17 purposes of the fire company or rescue squad; and

18 2. the rent that is received from the property is used
19 exclusively for the purposes of the fire company or rescue squad; or

20 (v) is used as a residence for an individual who:

21 1. is responsible for taking care of property owned by the fire
22 company or rescue squad;

23 2. is a member of the fire company or rescue squad;

24 3. is not an employee of the fire company or rescue squad;
25 and

26 4. is not under an obligation to pay for the use of the
27 property.

28 9-309.

29 (b) The governing body of Cecil County [and] OR of a municipal corporation
30 in Cecil County may grant, by law, a property tax credit under this section against the
31 county [and] OR municipal corporation property tax imposed on:

32 (1) property that is owned by the Upper Chesapeake Watershed
33 Association and is used:

1 [(1)] (I) to assist in the preservation of a wild nature area;

2 [(2)] (II) to establish a nature reserve or other protected area; or

3 [(3)] (III) generally to promote conservation; AND

4 (2) PROPERTY THAT IS OWNED BY AN INCORPORATED, NONPROFIT FIRE
5 COMPANY OR RESCUE SQUAD, IF THE PROPERTY:

6 (I) IS LEASED FOR MORE THAN 60 DAYS DURING ANY 12-MONTH
7 PERIOD UNDER A CONTRACTUAL AGREEMENT FOR THE OPERATION OF THE FIRE
8 COMPANY'S FIRE HALL; AND

9 (II) WOULD QUALIFY FOR THE EXEMPTION UNDER § 7-209 OF THIS
10 ARTICLE IF LEASED FOR NOT MORE THAN 60 DAYS DURING ANY 12-MONTH PERIOD.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
12 June 1, 2006, and shall be applicable to all taxable years beginning after June 30,
13 2006.